

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. WEAT/0488

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 42-57 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) An apparatus for handling a tubular, comprising:
a housing for receiving the tubular;
a plurality of gripping members disposed in the housing for gripping the tubular;
and
a plurality of torque distributors disposed in the housing for engaging the plurality of gripping members.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of torque distributors prevents the plurality of gripping members from twisting as torque is applied to the tubular.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the plurality of torque distributors comprises a pin having an arcuate surface on one side and a flat surface on another.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a chamber for maintaining a respective gripping member.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a load plate disposed between the plurality of gripping members and the housing.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein a contact surface between the load plate and the plurality of gripping members comprises an arcuate surface.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of gripping members comprises a piston and cylinder assembly.

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8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the piston is attached to the housing and the cylinder is radially movable relative to the piston.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising an engagement member disposed on the piston and cylinder assembly.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the engagement member is selected from the group consisting of a jaw, a die, and combinations thereof.
11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the plurality of torque distributors prevents the plurality of gripping members from twisting.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the plurality of torque distributors are disposed parallel to an axis of the piston and cylinder assembly.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein a bending force acting on the piston and cylinder assembly is distributed across the plurality of torque distributors.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein six torque distributors guides each gripping member.
15. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for handling a tubular having a first portion and a second portion, comprising:
 - a frame;
 - a first gripping apparatus disposed on the frame;
 - a second gripping apparatus disposed on the frame, wherein each of the gripping apparatus includes:
 - a housing for receiving the tubular;
 - a plurality of gripping members disposed in the housing for gripping the tubular; and

a plurality of torque distributors disposed in the housing for distributing forces acting on the plurality of gripping members.

16. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the first gripping apparatus has torquing capability.

17. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the second gripping apparatus includes one or more torquing members for rotating the housing.

18. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the one or more torquing members comprise a piston and cylinder assembly.

19. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the plurality of torque distributors prevents the plurality of gripping members from twisting.

20. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein each of the plurality of torque distributors has an arcuate surface on one side and a flat surface on another.

21. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising a load plate disposed between the plurality of gripping members and the housing.

22. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein a contact surface between the load plate and the plurality of gripping members comprises an arcuate surface.

23. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the plurality of gripping members comprises a piston and cylinder assembly.

24. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a tubular engagement member disposed on the piston and cylinder assembly.

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25. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the engagement member is selected from the group consisting of a jaw, a die, and combinations thereof.
26. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the plurality of torque distributors prevents the plurality of gripping members from twisting.
27. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for handling a tubular, comprising:
a housing for receiving the tubular; and
a plurality of gripping members disposed in the housing for gripping the tubular;
wherein the plurality of gripping members are adjusted to the size of the tubular.
28. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the plurality of gripping members are adjusted simultaneously.
29. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein each of the plurality of gripping members comprises a shaft threadedly connected to a jaw body.
30. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of gripping members comprises a shaft threadedly connected to a jaw body.
31. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the jaw body comprises a gear profile disposed on an outer surface.
32. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the plurality of gripping members are adjusted by engaging the gear profile.
33. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising an indexing assembly for aligning one or more tubular engagement members.
34. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the indexing assembly comprises an indexing key for mating with an indexing slot on the gripping member.

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35. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the plurality of gripping members are adjusted using a turn ring.

36. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35, further comprising one or more rollers to facilitate rotation of the turn ring.

37. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the housing and the plurality of gripping members are disposed in a rotary.

38. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a transport device.

39. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 38, further comprising a locking mechanism to prevent movement of the gripping members during transport.

40. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the plurality of gripping members are adjusted mechanically.

41. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the plurality of gripping members are adjusted using a gear ring.

42-57. Cancelled.